

City of Milpitas
Unapproved Minutes
Telecommunications Commission
November 17, 2003

I. Call to Order & Roll Call:

Chair Alcorn called the meeting to order.

Members Present: N. Gupta, W. Lam, G. Ali-Santosa, P. Peterson, V. Mathur, D. Gupta, A. Ettinger, P. Gupta

I.S. Staff: B. Marion, E. Pasion

City Council: A. Gomez

Members Absent: A. Alcorn, I. Munir, R. Gopalaroa

II. Pledge of Allegiance:

The Commission recited The Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Announcements:

Staff reported that Chair Alcorn would not be present for this meeting.

IV. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda as submitted.

M/S N. Gupta/D. Gupta Ayes: 8

**V. Approval of the Minutes
October 20, 2003**

Vice Chair N. Gupta noted that the meeting was a CABAC organization and not to be confused with

Motion to approved the minutes as submitted.

M/S N. Gupta/D. Gupta Ayes: 8

VI. Citizen's Forum

No comments made for the record.

VII. Continued-New Business:

1. PRT Presentation

Rob Means, with the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association, provided a detailed summary of the transportation concept of personal rapid transit (PRT) and its possible future implementation around the Milpitas community.

Mr. Means provided a review of the PRT transportation system and presented various examples of the project being considered in several cities nationally and internationally. Milpitas could consider several types of PRT systems for implementation allowing flexibility for residents to travel around the community.

Members of the Commission asked of the overall cost to Milpitas residents and businesses and how a project of this nature would get it's funding. The cost for a ten-mile guide

way project is estimated at \$10 million of a \$100 million transportation project.

Mr. Means reported that there are currently no PRT systems in operation in the United States. If Milpitas were to be the first to have such a PRT transportation system the funding would require an investment of \$10 million dollars and he expects that other funding sources would help offset the continuing cost.

Vice Chair N. Gupta asked of the current support for PRT transportation concept. Mr. Means noted that, currently there is very limited interest from local elected officials. Support is being sought out at the grass-roots level to help draw more interest in the PRT concept.

Commissioner Alisantosa suggested that the project of this nature should start off on a smaller scale at first to help introduce it in to the community and businesses.

Commissioner D. Gupta added that routing the PRT system around the business community would be more advantageous to involve the business community in the project.

Motion to note receipt and file

M/S P. Peterson / D. Gupta Ayes: 8

2. Cable Franchise Updates

Milpitas Information Services Director Bill Marion provided a summary of current activities involving the cable television franchise with Comcast cable.

Mr. Marion reported to the Commission the following items of completion involving the cable television franchise: the cable fee desk audit was complete and the requirements document and draft franchise was completed for review and comment with Comcast. The City and Comcast will review the document for further comment.

Regarding the franchise document the following items were discussed; the draft needs assessment require improved customer services standards; Comcast to adhere to state and federal electrical and safety codes; expansion of two additional cable channels to support public access, educational access and the existing government access cable channels; retain the 5% cable franchise fee; request the online t.v. guide feature; request Comcast consider more multicultural programming; seek to use the emergency broadcast system via the cable service spectrum; assist the City with completing connectivity to the city's sports center future new library and current and future senior center; continued supported for coverage of city council and planning commission meetings; relocation of connections for live public access broadcast programming

Three options for supporting public access would involve contracting with KMVT nonprofit public access in the City of Mountain View, supporting ongoing Comcast cable access facilities in the City of Newark, or support the development of a cable public access studio in Milpitas collocating the studio with the Milpitas Unified School District.

KMVT would require an upfront grant of \$250,000 to \$500,000 and an ongoing investment of \$1.5 million over ten years to support cable access for Milpitas programming.

Cable Access Newark would require additional cable equipment support to deliver programming to Milpitas. At this time Newark is part of the Comcast East bay cable coverage.

The third option would be to establish a community access facility in Milpitas run by local volunteers and by student volunteers. Equipment would be owned by the City and have overall control of the operations. The Telecom Commission would have the role of developing policy and use of the future studio.

Commissioner D. Gupta and Commissioner Peterson assisted greatly in the evaluation and review of the studio review and consideration.

Staff will now conduct formal meetings with Comcast officials and begin negotiations with the cable company.

Motion to note receipt and file.

M/S V. Mathur / P. Gupta

Ayes: 8

3. October '03 Monthly I.S. Report

Milpitas Information Services Director Bill Marion provided a summary of activities during the month of October in the Information Services department.

Accomplishments included the updates on the current internet web visits to the City's web site to view the archive of city council and planning commission meetings; additional bandwidth has been integrated for video conferencing; successful integration of the Milpitas Fire Department video conferencing network; expanded work on the Colliers International interactive web page on the commercial properties listing on the City's web site; integration of Wi-Fi wireless technology antennas for mobile police data access; testing wireless network connectivity to the Milpitas sports center complex; major upgrade to the City's financial software system; addition of conduit to the temporary senior center to have reduce telephone cost to the City.

Mr. Marion reported that installation work would start on the new computer aided dispatch center and would be in operation in early 2004.

The Commission asked of the online commercial property project. Staff noted that the information has been update frequently and has gather modest interest from the business community.

Motion to note receipt and file.

M/S V. Mathur / D. Gupta

Ayes: 8

4. Round Table Discussion.

No comments were made for the record from the members of the Commission.

VIII. Adjournment of Meeting

The Commission adjourned to its next meeting on Monday, December 15, 2003.

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